REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-25 are pending in the present application. Claim 2 has been canceled and claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 20, 21 and 25 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, a certified copy of the claimed foreign priority application was requested; and claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kang in view of Abrol et al.

A certified copy of the claimed foreign priority application will be filed in due course in light of the comments cited in the Office Action.

Claims 1-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kang in view of Abrol et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 1 is directed to a method for managing a socket in a mobile communication system including allocating a socket corresponding to a call control processor (CCP) in each one of a plurality of target processors, communicating, via a first protocol, with each one of the plurality of target processors using the allocated socket, and releasing the socket allocated to a selected target processor based on a reception state of a status message. Further, releasing the allocated socket includes transmitting a status confirmation message, via a second protocol different than the first protocol, to the selected

target processor if the status message corresponding to the selected target processor is not received by the CCP, determining whether the status confirmation message has been received by the target processor, and determining whether to release the allocated socket according to the determination of the receipt of the status confirmation message.

Thus, according to the present invention, even though the receipt of the status message is not received using the first protocol (no in step S307 in Figure 3), a status confirmation message is transmitted using a second protocol, which is different than the first protocol, to the selected target processor to thereby determine whether to release the allocated socket. Independent claims 14 and 21 also clarify that first and second protocols are used.

On the contrary, Abrol et al. merely describes the general processes related to creating sockets using TCP in column 8, line 47 to column 9, line 34 and using UDP sockets in column 10, lines 22-46. For example, column 8, line 66 to column 9, line 7 indicates that the state machine transitions to the closed state 815 (see Figure 8, for example) whenever: the network subsystem failure occurs, the failure to establish a TCP connection; an attempt to terminate the TCP connection, and the change of the IP address. Thus, if a TCP connection is not established, in Abrol et al., the connection is closed. This differs from the claimed invention in which if a TCP connection is not properly communicating, a UDP status confirmation is transmitted to determine whether the socket merely needs to be re-allocated because of an error or whether the socket has to be completely released because it

is down. Abrol et al. does not teach or suggest using the first and second protocols as

claimed by the present invention. Kang also does not teach or suggest these features.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claim 1, 14 and 21 and each of

the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Further, the specification has been amended to correct minor informalities. It is

believed no new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that

the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional

changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is

invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David A. Bilodeau**, at the telephone number

listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is

hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this,

concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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